

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are pending in the present application.

This Amendment is in response to the Final Office Action mailed October 23, 2002. In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 4-5, 8 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,216,208 issued to Greiner et. al. ("Greiner"); claims 2-3, 9-12 and 16-19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Greiner in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,356,962 issued to Kasper ("Kasper"); and claims 6-7, 13-14, and 20-21 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Greiner. Reconsideration in light of the remarks made herein is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, the Examiner stated that the limitation "a prefetcher ... to deliver the prefetched data from the data queue to a bus independently of the memory." The Examiner then recited the description of the prefetch queue in Greiner from Col. 2, lines 59-67 to Col. 3, lines 1-10; and Col. 5, lines 54-58. However, the Examiner did not specifically address the two issues raised in the previous response, namely (1) a queue controller to deliver the prefetched data, and (2) the delivering of the prefetch data is independently of the memory.^a As argued in the previous ~~response~~ response, the element 162 in Greiner is an address buffer to store addresses, not data, associated with the request;" and the prefetch queue receives address information from the internal queue, not from a memory.

Therefore, Applicants believe that independent claims 1, 8 and 15 and their respective dependent claims are distinguishable over the cited prior art references. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(e), and 35 U.S.C. §103(a) be withdrawn.

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

No changes have been made to the claims.

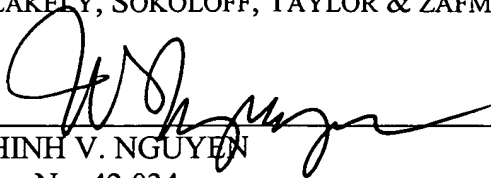
CONCLUSION

In view of the remarks made above, it is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on: December 23, 2002 .



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